

REMARKS

Applicants' representative thanks the Examiner for the courtesies extended with regard to the information conveyed to the Examiner *via* phone on March 19, 2008, by Francis Dunn, wherein a proposed amendment to independent claim 24 was conveyed to the Examiner. The proposed amendment to independent claim 24 involved including elements similar to independent claim 1 in view of the indication by the Examiner that independent claim 1 (and claims 2-23) stand allowed.

Claims 1-46 are currently pending in the subject application and claims 1-33 are presently under consideration. Applicants' representative thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-23 stand allowed. The Examiner has rejected claims 24-33. While Applicants' representative disagrees that the cited references render obvious any of the subject claims, in order to expedite prosecution, claim 24 has been amended herein (in view of the Examiner's indication that claims 1-23 stand allowed), so that all claims presently under consideration are in condition for allowance, as shown on pages 2-8 of the Reply. No new matter has been added.

Favorable reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested in view of the comments and amendments herein.

I. Rejection of Claims 24-33 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 24-33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koch *et al.* (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0055828) (hereinafter "Koch *et al.*") in view of Dunn *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,668,991) (hereinafter "Dunn *et al.*"). Withdrawal of this rejection is requested for at least the following reason. Koch *et al.* and Dunn *et al.*, either alone or in combination, do not disclose, teach, or suggest each and every element of the subject claims.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 1-23 stand allowed. Independent claim 24 has been amended herein to include elements similar to independent claim 1. For at least the foregoing reasons, Koch *et al.* and Dunn *et al.*, either alone or in combination, do not disclose, teach, or suggest each and every element of independent claim 24 (and associated dependent claims 25-33). Accordingly, it is believed that the subject claims are in condition for allowance, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance in view of the above comments and amendments. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

In the event any fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063 [MSFTP449US].

Should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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